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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/665,154

Examiner

Hoan H. Tran

Applicant(s)

YOSHINO ET AL.

Art Unit

2852

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 04/27/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-10,13,14 and 16-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

*Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 1, 3-10, 13, 14 and 16-27 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1 and 3-9

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a liquid type image forming apparatus comprising an intermediate transfer body having a fluorine compound on its surface and a heating device disposed at a downstream side of the secondary transfer device and an upstream side of the primary transfer device and is thereby configured to heat the intermediate transfer body at a position after the visualized image has been transferred onto the recording body and before another visualized image is intermediately transferred from the latent image carrier.

Claims 10 and 17-26

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a liquid type image forming apparatus comprising a device configured to eliminate a substance on the intermediate transfer body and having a form roller which has a surface roughness rougher than the surface roughness of the intermediate transfer body is provided, and the substance on the intermediate transfer body is eliminated by rubbing the surface of the intermediate transfer body with the form roller.

Claims 13 and 27

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a liquid type image forming apparatus comprising a device and method configured to eliminate a substance on the intermediate transfer

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body and having a metal blade is provided, and the substance on the intermediate transfer body is eliminated by rubbing the surface of the intermediate transfer body with the metal blade.

Claim 14

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a liquid type image forming apparatus comprising a device configured to eliminate a substance on the intermediate transfer body and having a substance eliminating member which is harder than the resin composing the toner and is softer than the surface of the intermediate transfer body is disposed, and the substance on the intermediate transfer body is eliminated by rubbing the surface of the intermediate transfer body with the substance eliminating member.

Claim 16

None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a liquid type image forming apparatus comprising a device configured to eliminate a substance on the intermediate transfer body and which sprays a high temperature vapor to the intermediate transfer body is provided.

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoan H. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-2141. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Monday-Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Arthur Grimley can be reached at (571) 272-2136. The central office fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

HHT  
July 10, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hoan Tran", with a stylized flourish at the end.

**HOAN TRAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**